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Shared Savings Program

This webpage will be updated to align with the Shared Savings Program 2015 Final Rule. Check back soon for updates.

About Us

The Medicare Shared Savings Program (Shared Savings Program) was established by section 3022 of the Affordable Care Act. The Shared Savings Program is a key component of the Medicare delivery system reform initiatives included in the Affordable Care Act and is a new approach to the delivery of health care. Congress created the Shared Savings Program to facilitate coordination and cooperation among providers to improve the quality of care for Medicare Fee-For-Service (FFS) beneficiaries and reduce unnecessary costs. Eligible providers, hospitals, and suppliers may participate in the Shared Savings Program by creating or participating in an Accountable Care Organization (ACO).

To fulfill the intent of the Affordable Care Act, the Shared Savings Program aims to improve beneficiary outcomes and increase value of care by providing:

- Better care for individuals;
- Better health for populations; and
- Lowering growth in expenditures

The Shared Savings Program will reward ACOs that lower their growth in health care costs while meeting performance standards on quality of care and putting patients first. Participation in an ACO is purely voluntary.

What is an Accountable Care Organization (ACO)?

The Shared Savings Program ACOs are groups of doctors and other health care providers who voluntarily work together with Medicare to give high quality service to Medicare Fee-for-Service beneficiaries. An ACO is not a Medicare Advantage plan or an HMO.

To learn more about ACOs, please click on the link below:

[Accountable Care Organizations \(ACO\)](#)

Shared Savings Program Fast Facts

The Shared Savings Program Fast Facts are an annual collection of data that illustrate facts about the Shared Savings Program ACOs such as, where ACOs are located, ACO composition, payment characteristics, beneficiary population demographics, and the risk profile of the ACO beneficiary population. This compilation of information provides an aggregate look at the composition of all ACOs, not specific ACOs. To learn more about the Shared Savings Program ACOs, click on one of the two links below.

- [All Shared Savings Program ACOs IPDF, 358KB](#)
- [All Shared Savings Program and Pioneer ACOs Combined IPDF, 168KB](#)

Shared Savings Program Fact Sheets

To explore more information about the Shared Savings Program, click on the collection of fact sheets below.

- [Summary of the June 2015 Final Rule Provisions for Accountable Care Organizations \(ACOs\) under the Medicare Shared Savings Program IPDF, 450KB](#)
- [Accountable Care Organizations: What Providers Need to Know, Fact Sheet \(March 2016\) IPDF, 593KB](#)
- [Methodology for Determining Shared Savings and Losses Under the Medicare Shared Savings Program, Fact Sheet \(April 2014\) IPDF, 1MB](#)
- [Medicare Shared Savings Program and Rural Providers, Fact Sheet \(March 2016\) IPDF, 521KB](#)
- [Advance Payment Accountable Care Organization \(ACO\) Model IPDF, 2MB](#)
- [Improving Quality of Care for Medicare Patients: Accountable Care Organizations, Fact Sheet \(March 2016\) IPDF, 595KB](#)
- [Accountable Care Organizations: Improving Care Coordination for People with Medicare Fact Sheet](#)

Shared Savings Program Publicly Available ACO Data and ACO Performance Data

CMS makes data on Shared Savings Program Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) publicly available through a number of resources. The guide " [Medicare Shared Savings Program: Publicly available ACO data and ACO performance data sources maintained by CMS IPDF, 168KB](#) " includes descriptions of these data sources and links to where to access the most recently available data.

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